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December 10, 2003

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10/73139

**MAIL STOP PATENT APPLICATION**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**Re:** Application of Laurence BOULANGE, Francoise HAEGELI, Joel CHOBERT  
TUBE FOR USE IN FLUID EVAPORATION TECHNIQUES, IN  
PARTICULAR FOOD FLUID  
**Assignee:** SOCIETE MEUSIENNE DE CONSTRUCTIONS  
MECANIQUES  
Our Ref: Q78861

Dear Sir:

This is a request for a Divisional Application of pending prior Application No. 10/018,366 (Confirmation No. 7864) filed March 12, 2002 of Laurence BOULANGE, Francoise HAEGELI and Joel CHOBERT entitled TUBE FOR USE IN FLUID EVAPORATION TECHNIQUES, IN PARTICULAR FOOD FLUID.

This application is being filed under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b). Enclosed is a specification, including the claims and abstract, one (1) sheet of drawing containing Figs. 1-3, and a copy of the Declaration as filed in the prior application. Also enclosed is an Information Disclosure Statement with a Form PTO/SB/08 A & B listing the references cited in the parent application.

The prior application is assigned to Group Art Unit 3743.

Amend the specification by inserting before the first line the sentence:

This is a divisional of Application No. 10/018,366 filed March 12, 2002, the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference.

Priority is claimed from:

<u>Country</u>	<u>Application No</u>	<u>Filing Date</u>
France	99 07 908	June 22, 1999

The priority document was filed in parent Application No. 10/018,366.



COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
Page 2  
December 10, 2003

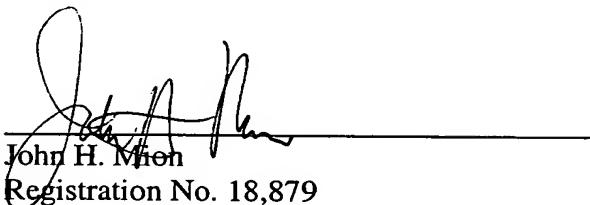
The Government filing fee is calculated as follows:

Total claims	<u>2</u>	-	<u>20</u>	=	<u>      </u>	x	\$18.00	=	<u>      </u>	\$0.00	
Independent claims	<u>1</u>	-	<u>3</u>	=	<u>      </u>	x	\$86.00	=	<u>      </u>	\$0.00	
Base Fee											\$770.00
<b>TOTAL FILING FEE</b>											<b><u>\$770.00</u></b>

A check for the statutory fee of \$770.00 is attached. The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this transmittal letter is attached.

A Petition (and payment) for an extension of time is being filed concurrently herewith in Application No. 10/018,366. The application is timely filed.

Respectfully submitted,



John H. Men  
Registration No. 18,879

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Date: December 10, 2003